

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

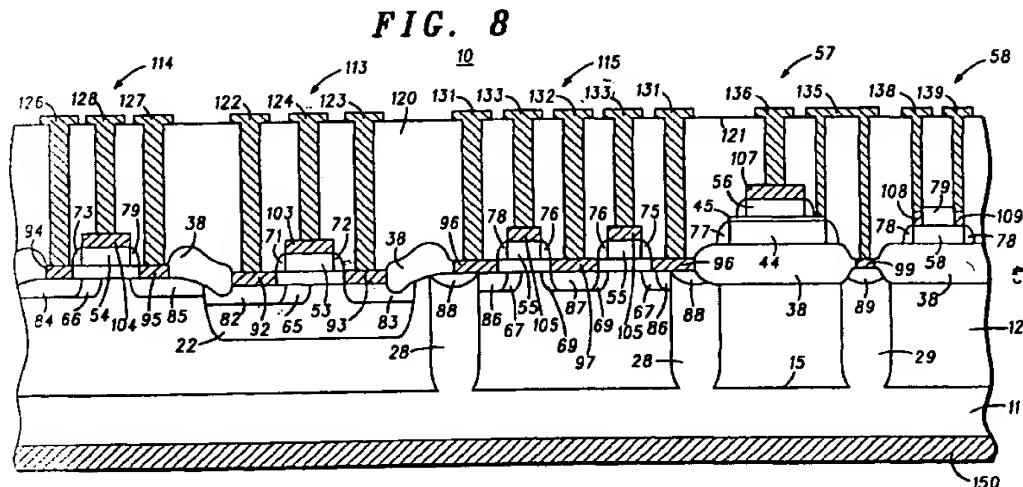
Claims 1-4, 6-11 and 16-19 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The claims are amended to correct the deficiencies noted by the Examiner.

Regarding the expression "just under", it was intended that this phrases refer to the relation between the input pad 116 and the impurity high-concentration diffused region 106 as illustrated in our Figures 1 and 2. The expression in the claims has been changed to "beneath".

In contrast, in Ma's structure, the corresponding element 89 is not located beneath the element 133 as shown in Fig. 9.

The rejection of claims 1-4, 7-11, and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as as being anticipated by Ma et al '753 is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner states that the metallization regions 133 of Ma et al are signal input pads. We think that this is a misunderstanding of the reference. The main feature of the Ma et al invention are shown in reference Figure 8.



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An interlayer insulating film (such as our insulating film 113) should be deposited. Therefore, the metallization regions 133, etc. are not exposed and these regions *cannot* be

signal input pads. Signal input pads are portions where wires can be bonded, or testing probes can be contacted.

In contrast, our input pad 116 is exposed.

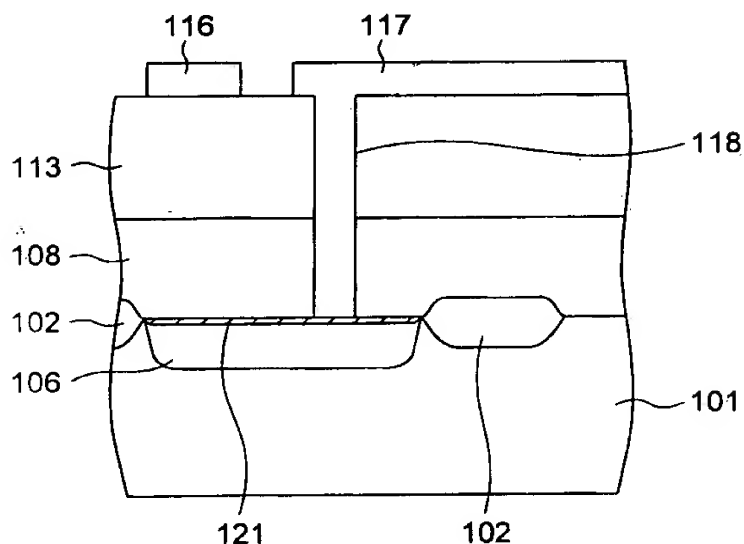


FIG. 2B b-b' SECTION

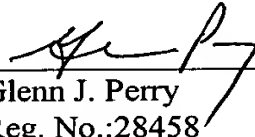
Therefore, functions of metallization region 133 of Ma and our input pad 116 have completely different structures and functions.

Applicant believes that the Ma reference does not teach as suggested by the Examiner and that either alone or in combination with Batterby et al does not render any of the claims including claims 6 and 13 unpatentable.

In view of the foregoing, the claims, as amended, are believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pillsbury Winthrop LLP

By:   
Glenn J. Perry  
Reg. No.: 28458  
Tel. No.: (703) 905-2161  
Fax No.: (703) 905-2500

GJP\jjg  
1600 Tysons Boulevard  
McLean, VA 22102

(703) 905-2000